

For the third season in a row, the Moriah Vikings earned a spot in the state championship game at the Syracuse Carrier Dome. Led by Coach Don Tesar, the Vikings rose to the challenge of the semifinal game and overcame adversity after trailing at halftime. Their efficient offense converted three possessions into three touchdowns in the third quarter. The Vikings carried this energy and the record of an undefeated season into the state championship.

The Moriah Vikings put up a valiant effort against the Tioga Tigers during the Class D New York State Championship, where they came just short of winning their first state title. Thanks to a tremendous effort put forward by the defense, the Vikings only gave up seven points in the first half. Their perseverance and determination are truly inspirational and worthy of celebration.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I would like to congratulate the Moriah Vikings on their incredible 2021 season. We are very proud of their hard work and dedication throughout this year.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR TOM  
BERNARD

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 14, 2021*

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to Tom Bernard, a devoted public servant, for all that he has accomplished during his tenure as Mayor of the City of North Adams, Massachusetts.

Mayor Bernard has invigorated the City of North Adams by expanding economic opportunities and fostering modern, future-oriented growth. His administration has focused on increasing green initiatives, with the integration of electric vehicles in the city's fleet, strategic action to decrease North Adams' carbon footprint, and launching the North Adams Tree Initiative. In addition, Mayor Bernard has been a staunch advocate for the marginalized in his community, working actively to increase diversity and inclusion initiatives within the city's government. Recognition of Indigenous Peoples Day in North Adams came largely as a product of Mayor Bernard's advocacy on these matters.

Mayor Bernard has put significant effort in updating critical infrastructure in the city of North Adams despite the many challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Bernard successfully replaced all the non-functioning and malfunctioning hydrants, while simultaneously overseeing a full reevaluation of the city's 60-year-old zoning laws, creating an avenue for much needed commerce in the city.

Madam Speaker, in light of Mayor Tom Bernard's many achievements and remarkable contributions to the City of North Adams and the western Massachusetts community, I wish to congratulate him once again on his successful tenure as Mayor of North Adams. He has undoubtedly played a pivotal role in shaping the development of North Adams for years to come, and I am delighted to join with his family, friends, and the entire North Adams

community in thanking him for his dedicated service.

CELEBRATING TECH SGT. JAMES  
FRANK BOUCHER ON HIS 100TH  
BIRTHDAY

**HON. MIKE BOST**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 14, 2021*

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate James Frank Boucher, of Murphysboro, Illinois, who celebrates his 100th birthday on January 4, 2022. Known as Frank to his friends and family, Mr. Boucher was born on January 4, 1922, in Grimsby, Illinois, to James and Lillie Boucher and grew up with his three siblings: Dorothy, Fred, and Bernie. After graduating high school, Frank entered World War II as a reconnaissance pilot in the Army Air Corps, flying a single engine Stinson L-5 in the Pacific Theater and rising to the rank of Technical Sergeant. His family's favorite story to tell regards when Tech Sergeant Boucher was MIA for 14 days. Frank landed on a sandbar and traveled by night from village to village along the river. Using his pointy-talk book, he was able to communicate with the locals, which allowed him to work his way back to Yunan to be transported to Kummung Air Base. He was back flying missions the next day. In 1946, Frank returned home and married his wife, Zidania Francis Ogden. They were blessed with three boys. After working for the United States Postal Service for over 30 years, Frank retired and spent his newfound free time teaching his sons how to hunt and fish, and the importance of church and family. Over the years, his family grew to six grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren. Frank's wife of 73 years passed away 2 years ago, but he's still certain to cherish every moment shared with his family. Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Tech Sergeant James Frank Boucher on his milestone 100th birthday. On behalf of Southern Illinois, thank you for your service to our Nation and happy birthday.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR.  
KEVIN RYAN

**HON. JIM BANKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 14, 2021*

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Kevin Ryan of Fishers for his dedicated service to Indiana's financial sector as he prepares to retire as CEO of Financial Center First Credit Union.

Kevin's credit union career spans decades dating back to the 1980s. Most notably, he has led Financial Center First CU as its CEO since 2009. During his years leading the Financial Center, the credit union has doubled in asset size to \$828 million, with membership growth also doubling to more than 80,000. To this end, Financial Center is one of the nation's leading credit unions in financial literacy

outreach, receiving national awards every year from 2014 to 2021 for those efforts.

Kevin's success with Financial Center made a tremendous impact on the lives of countless others in other ways, as well. Over the years, Financial Center raised hundreds of thousands of dollars through its annual golf outings to donate to organizations feeding the hungry, including the Mozel Sanders Foundation, the Salvation Army Food Pantry, and Gleaners Food Bank.

In addition to this work, Kevin sought a way to pay tribute to Hoosier veterans. So, he traveled to credit unions around the state to raise funds to construct the Indiana Military Veterans Hall of Fame, which honors veterans with ties to Indiana. Now, generations of Hoosiers will have the opportunity to honor Indiana's heroes who fought to keep our country free.

I am proud to honor Kevin as a testament to his work and legacy. I thank Kevin for all that he has done for our state, and we wish him the best as he begins the next chapter of his life.

IN GRATITUDE OF SIGRID GRACE

**HON. HALEY M. STEVENS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 14, 2021*

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional constituent and community leader in Michigan, Ms. Sigrid Grace.

Ms. Grace is a lifelong Michigander who graduated from Central Michigan University where she met her late husband John Grace during her freshman year.

As the Rochester Area Democratic Club Chair for over twenty-five years, Ms. Grace fostered and grew the club's membership, supporting many causes and candidates. Our community is deeply grateful for her many years of leadership at RADCL, and we congratulate her on her recent retirement.

Ms. Grace's passion for education has no limits. She taught for forty years, most notably as a second-grade teacher in the Almont Community School District.

Furthermore, Ms. Grace served as the local bargaining president on behalf of local educators and as a delegate for the Democratic National Convention from 2000 to 2004. She later became the National Chair of the early childhood education caucus at the National Education Association, where she advocated for the importance of pre-kindergarten education.

Ms. Grace currently resides in Rochester Hills, Michigan, where she volunteers at various community events and teaches school children how to read with her Shetland sheepdog, Baron.

Fighting for Michigan teachers, Ms. Grace exemplifies what it means to be an educator and a community leader. Her work is inspiring and a positive example to many in Michigan and across the county.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the outstanding contributions Ms. Grace has made to Michigan, our teachers, students, and our country at large.